(c) The case of wilful defaults as on March 31, 2002 is as under:

(Amount in Rs. crore)

	Suit Filed		Non-suit filed		Total	
	No. of A/cs	Amount	No. of A/cs	Amount	No. of A/cs	Amount
Banks	1481	4889.30	843	2711.06	2324	7600.36
FIs*	113	1183.41	65	2118.91	178	3302.32
TOTAL	1594	6072.71	908	4829.97	2502	10902.66

*Financial Institutions

Assistance to financial institutions

†1395.SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of shortage of funds in a number of financial institutions in the country, financial assistance has been extended to them by the Government to run their business during the last six months;

(b) if so, the names of such institutions together with the amount of financial assistance extended to each of them; and

(c) what are the main reasons for shortage of funds in those financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Government have not extended financial assistance to any Financial Institution in the country to run their business in the last six months.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

"Data on Offences" developed by Customs Department

1396. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs Department has developed a software

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

called "Data on Offences" to nab offenders involved in smuggling, evasion of customs duty and other offences;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Customs Department has already installed this equipment at various airports and if so, the details thereof, and offenders opprehended by the authorities after the installation of this equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Neither has such a software been developed nor such an equipment installed at airports to nab offenders automatically involved in smuggling/evasion of duty and other offences. However, Mumbai Customs (Preventive) Commissionerate has developed a software for storing the data on offences committed by the offenders involved in smuggling/evasion of duty and other offences. Similarly, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and some of the other Customs Commissionerates have developed need based software mainly for storage of information about seizure, confiscation etc.

High cost debt of State Governments

1397. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have placed a demand before the Central Government to provide more relief to them in terms of retiring their high cost debt and swapping it with fresh low cost borrowings;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have cleared a diluted, back-to-back debt swap plan which seeks to retire Rs. 25,000 crore of high cost debt of State Government;

(c) whether Central Government have asked States to curb debt build-up through Medium Term Fiscal Reform Programme (MTFRP); and

(d) if so, to what extent State Governments have welcomed this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The